

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A surface tension control agent for coating materials comprising:

a fluorine-containing (meth)acryl type copolymer obtained by copolymerization of monomers ~~comprising~~ consisting of

a fluorine-substituted alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer (A);

~~an alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer (B)~~ an alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer having an alkyl group selected from the group consisting of lauryl and stearyl, or n-butyl acrylate monomer (B); and

a hydroxyl group- or ether group-~~containing~~ -substituted alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer (C),

wherein the ratio of (A) to {(B)+(C)} in the copolymer is in the range of 3-60 parts by weight to 40-97 parts by weight.

2. (Original) The surface tension control agent according to Claim 1, wherein the fluorine-containing (meth)acryl type copolymer is a copolymer obtained by copolymerization of monomers comprising:

the monomer (A);

the monomer (B);

the monomer (C); and

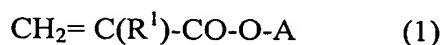
at least one kind of vinyl monomer (D) selected from the group consisting of styrene, alkyl vinyl ether, alpha-olefin and maleic anhydride.

3. (Original) The surface tension control agent according to Claim 1, wherein a weight-average molecular weight of the fluorine-containing (meth)acrylate copolymer is in the range of 1,500-300,000.

4. (Original) The surface tension control agent according to Claim 1, wherein the monomer (A) is an alkyl (meth)acrylate having a perfluoro alkyl group with 2-18 carbon atoms.

5. (Currently Amended) The surface tension control agent according to Claim 1, wherein ~~the monomer (B) is an alkyl (meth)acrylate having an alkyl group with 1-30 carbon atoms~~ the copolymerization is block copolymerization.

6. (Currently Amended) The surface tension control agent according to Claim 1, wherein the monomer (C) is at least one kind of a hydroxyl group- or ether group-~~containing~~ substituted alkyl (meth)acrylate represented by the following formula (1)



(where R¹ is hydrogen atom or methyl group; -A is a hydroxyl alkyl group with 2-4 carbon atoms or an alkyl substituent thereof, an alkyl monoalkylene glycol group having an alkyl group with 1-18 carbon atoms, an alkyl polyalkylene glycol group having an alkyl group with 1-18 carbon atoms, an alkenyl monoalkylene glycol group having an alkenyl group with 2-18 carbon atoms, or an alkenyl group-substituted polyalkylene glycol group having an alkenyl group with 2-18 carbon atoms).

7. (Currently Amended) A coating material comprising:

a surface tension control agent for coating materials, which comprises a fluorine-containing (meth)acryl type copolymer obtained by copolymerization of monomers ~~comprising~~ consisting of

a fluorine-substituted alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer (A);

~~an alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer (B)~~ an alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer having an alkyl group selected from the group consisting of lauryl and stearyl, or n-butyl acrylate monomer (B); and

a hydroxyl group- or ether group-~~containing~~ substituted alkyl (meth)acrylate monomer (C),

wherein the ratio of (A) to {(B)+(C)} in the copolymer is in the range of 3-60 parts by weight to 40-97 parts by weight.

8. (Original) The coating material according to Claim 7, wherein the fluorine-containing (meth)acrylate type copolymer is a copolymer obtained by copolymerization of monomers comprising:

the monomer (A);

the monomer (B);

the monomer (C); and

at least one kind of vinyl monomer (D) selected from the group consisting of styrene, alkyl vinyl ether, alpha-olefin and maleic anhydride.

9. (Original) The coating material according to Claim 7, wherein the weight-average molecular weight of the fluorine-containing (meth)acryl type copolymer is in the range of 1,500-300,000.
10. (Original) The coating material according to Claim 7, wherein the monomer (A) is an alkyl (meth)acrylate having a perfluoroalkyl group with 2-18 carbon atoms.
11. (Currently Amended) The coating material according to Claim 7, wherein ~~the monomer (B) is an alkyl (meth)acrylate having an alkyl group with 1-30 carbon atoms~~ the copolymerization is block copolymerization.
12. (Currently Amended) The coating material according to Claim 7, wherein the monomer (C) is at least one kind of hydroxyl group- or ether group-~~containing~~ -substituted alkyl (meth)acrylate represented by the following formula (1)
- $$\text{CH}_2=\text{C}(\text{R}^1)\text{-CO-O-A} \quad (1)$$
- (where R¹ is hydrogen atom or methyl group; -A is a hydroxy alkyl group with 2-4 carbon atoms or an alkyl substituent thereof, an alkyl monoalkylene glycol group having an alkyl group with 1-18 carbon atoms, an alkyl polyalkylene glycol group having an alkyl group with 1-18 carbon atoms, an alkenyl monoalkylene glycol group having an alkenyl group with 2-18 carbon atoms, or an alkenyl group-substituted polyalkylene glycol group having an alkenyl group with 2-18 carbon atoms).
13. (Original) The coating material according to Claim 7, wherein the coating material further comprises an acrylic resin.